(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the loss caused and action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ordnance Factory Medak has so far imported 633 navigation equipments at a cost of Rs. 99.12 crore.

(c) The C and AG in his Report No. 6 of 2003 has observed that out of 220 sets imported during the years 1995 and 1996, 38 sets were found to be defective, out of which 13 could not be repaired during the warranty period.

(d) The defects in the 38 sets were noticed during field trials. As the supplier failed to respond to the request for rectification and there was emergent need to meet the supply schedule, the factory decided to take up the rectification on its own and repaired 22 sets. The supplier rectified 3 sets in March 1999 and subsequently refused to accept the responsibility of rectifying the remaining 13 sets at his cost on the plea that the factory had unsealed the equipment contrary to the contract conditions and that the warranty period had expired.

(e) The feasibility of repairing the balance 13 equipments by replacement of defective modules is being studied. The actual loss would be known after the cost of replacement/rectification is worked out.

Joint exercises between IAF and British Special Air Services

112. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Air Force is likely to have joint exercises with British Special Air Services;

(b) whether details in this regard have been finalised; and

(c) when these exercises are likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not airse.

Establishment of Defence University in Haryana

113. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Defence University in Haryana;

(b) if so, the place where this University is to be set up; and

(c) by when the work in this regard is likely to start and the University would become functional?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The issue of establishment of National Defence University (NDU) is under examination in the Ministry of Defence.

(b) No final decision on its location has been taken so far.

(c) It cannot be indicated at this stage by what time the NDU will become functional.

Production of SU-30 by HAL

114. MISS MABEL REBELLO :

SHRI B.J. PANDA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that HAL propose to bring out SU-30s next year;

(b) if so, whether our engineers are now fully capable of manufacturing this in the country and how our engineers are proposed to be trained; and

(c) whether all the problems which earlier had dogged the engine system, have been sorted out and a fully safe-proof system has been developed by our own men?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The first SU-30 MKI aircraft is planned to be delivered to the Indian Air Force in 2004-2005.

(b) A General Contract for licence production of SU-30 MKI aircraft at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has been signed between M/s Rosobrornexport, Russia and HAL on 28th December 2000. As per the contract, the Russian side will provide the technical support and training to HAL's specialists.

(c) SU-30 MKI aircraft will be powered with an advanced, high technology AL-31 F P engine, which will be manufactured at HAL under Transfer of Technology.